

## UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

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Dear Parents,

This year is an important time in the life of your child, who will receive the Sacraments of First Penance and Holy Communion. What a great gift God has given us in these two Sacraments! The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "The Holy Eucharist completes Christian Initiation. It is the source and summit of the Christian life." At this time, we are reminded of our own First Holy Communion and the tremendous love God has for each of us. Through the gift of the Holy Eucharist, our Lord gives Himself to us - His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity under the appearance of bread and wine.

As we prepare the children in the coming months, we will be helping them to be disposed to the many graces they will receive. We want them to have the special life-long closeness to Our Lord that awaits them through the sacraments.

During the next few months our teacher Mrs. Nancy Bialkowski and I will introduce the religious lessons on these two Sacraments, starting SUNDAY, October 7, 2018. The religious lessons will be held every Sunday in the parish school from 10 to 11 AM. We will try to adhere to this schedule as much as possible (there will be no class October 28 and December 9, 2018; April 14 and April 21, 2019)

Our lessons will be based on the contents of the textbook GOD GIVES LIFE (God With Us Publication). In this book is a series of questions and answers which your child must know and understand to the best of his/her ability. Answers do not need to be memorized word for word. However, the children must know the facts and be able to communicate the answers in their own words. The basic prayers MUST be memorized.

Please have your child bring textbook, folder and two pencils to each class. The folder will contain your child's work plus any correspondence we need to give to you.

We will have a Communion breakfast for all children and their families after Sunday Liturgy on May 5, 2019. There will be a letter with further details sent to you later.

We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment to all our children and we encourage you to read a booklet: A Safe Place for our Children, included with this letter.

The following are the key dates to remember:

- **First Reconciliation:** Friday, May 3, 2019. Your child must come to Assumption Catholic School and spend the day with the 2nd grade class.
- **First Communion:** Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Liturgy in the Church.

We are happy to be working with you in helping your child come to a deeper faith in Jesus Christ and His Church. The Church teaches that as parents you are the primary religious educators of your children. We cannot replace you, but we are delighted to help you. Please give a call to Fr. Ivan 732-826-0767 or Mrs. Bialkowski 732-500-7390 if you have any questions.

May God bless you,

Rev. Ivan Turyk -Pastor  
Mrs. Nancy Bialkowski - Catechist/ Religious Education